

Message Text

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2261

SECDEF WASHDC

INFOR AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ROME

JCS WASHDC

USCINCEUR

DCA WASHDC

DCA EUR

USNMR SHAPE

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

S E C R E T USNATO 3238

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC

SUBJECT: SATISFYING TURKISH COMMUNICATIONS REQUIREMENTS

REFS: A. USNATO 3051(NOTAL)

B. ANKARA 4322(NOTAL)

C. USEUCOM ECU6 10435, 061831Z JUN 75(NOTAL)

D. USNATO 2321(NOTAL)

SUMMARY: IN USNATO 3051(REF A) WE SUGGESTED THAT US CONSIDER SATISFYING SOME TURKISH COMMUNICATIONS REQUIREMENTS AS ONE WAY OF REASSURING TURKS. AMEMB ANKARA AFFIRMED (REF B) IMPORTANCE TO TURKS OF A US OFFER OF COMMUNICATIONS LINES, BUT CAUTIONED AGAINST PREMATURE DISCLOSURE OF OUR ABILITY TO MAKE IT. MEANWHILE, WE HAVE OBTAINED FROM USEUCOM (REF C) PRELIMINARY TECHNICAL INFORMATION ON HOW TO SATISFY SOME OF THE TURKISH SECRET

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COMMUNICATIONS REQUIREMENTS. THIS INFORMATION SHOWS THAT ONLY A COMBINATION OF US AND NATO FACILITIES CAN SATISFY MOST REQUIREMENTS. IN THIS MESSAGE, WE PRESENT CONSIDERATIONS RELEVANT TO A JOINT US-NATO OFFER TO PROVIDE COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANCE

AND CONCLUDE THAT, DESPITE THE DRAWBACKS, WASHINGTON SHOULD CONSIDER MAKING SUCH AN OFFER. END SUMMARY.

1. IN USNATO 3051(REF A) WE REPORTED TURKISH DEF AD DISCUSSION REGARDING PRESSURE ON TURKISH MISSION TO NATO AND ON TURKISH GENERAL STAFF TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST NATO AND THE US. WE SUGGESTED THAT THE US MIGHT REASSURE TURKS BY SATISFYING SOME TURKISH COMMUNICATIONS REQUIREMENTS THROUGH US FACILITIES. AMEMB ANKARA RESPONDED (RE B), AFFIRMING THE IMPORTANCE TO TURKEY OF SUCH A MOVE BUT CAUTIONING AGAINST PLAYING "OUR HIGHEST CARD" PREMATURELY.

2. WE HAVE OBTAINED (REF C) TECHNICAL INFORMATION FROM USEUCOM ON US CAPABILITY TO SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS AMBASSADOR ERALP PRESENTED TO THE DPC ON APRIL 25(REF D). THE INITIAL EUCOM ANALYSIS SHOWS THAT SOME OF THE CIRCUITS CAN BE ROUTED THROUGH THE US DCSC SATELLITE USING US-ALLOCATED CHANNELS AT NATO GROUND TERMINALS AT YONEALIK, TURKEY; AURELIA, ITALY; AND KESTER, BELGIUM. TAIL CIRCUITS BETWEEN GROUND TERMINALS AND USERS MUST BE VIA NATO HOST-NATION OR LEASED PTT FACILITIES IN EACH CASE. MORE SPECIFICALLY, IT APPEARS FEASIBLE TO SATISFY SOME REQUIREMENTS AS FOLLOWS:

A. ANKARA TO NAPLES. NATO/TURKEY SATCOM MULTIPLEX SYSTEM, ANKARA TO YONCALIK. FOUR VOICE CHANNELS, ONE MULTIPLEXED FOR TELEGRAPH, YONCALIK TO AURELIA, VIA US SATELLITE. NATO/ITALY SATCOM MULTIPLEX SYSTEM, AURELIA TO MONTE CAVO. ACE HIGH OR LEASED PTT CIRCUITS, MONTE CAVO TO NAPLES.

B. ANKARA TO SHAPE. ANKARA TO YONCALIK, AS ABOVE. ONE VOICE CHANNEL, YONCALIK TO KESTER, VIA US SATELLITE. NATO CIRCUITRY, KESTER TO SHAPE.

3. THESE ARRANGEMENTS DO NOT PROVIDE THE REQUESTED TELETYPE-WRITER CIRCUITS BETWEEN SHAPE OPERATIONS CENTER (SHOC) AND BASES AT ESKISHIR AND DIYARBAKIR. ACCOMMODATION OF THESE APPARENTLY REQUIRED ADDITIONAL TELEGRAPH MULTIPLEX (KVFT) EQUIP-
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MENT AND SOME RECONFIGURATION OF THE NATO SATELLITE GROUND TERMINALS AT BOTH KESTER AND YONCALIK.

4. WE HAVE RECENTLY LEARNED INFORMALLY THAT A RESTRICTED, LOW-PROFILE GROUP AT SHAPE HAS STUDIED THE FEASIBILITY OF SATISFYING THE TURKISH REQUIREMENTS WITH IN-PLACE NATO FACILITIES AND THE US SATELLITE. THEY HAVE DETERMINED THAT THE REQUIREMENTS CAN BE MET IF SOME PRESENT USERS ARE PRE-EMPTED. (THEIR PLAN WOULD USE NATO GROUND FACILITIES AND NATO-ALLOCATED CHANNELS ON THE US SATELLITE. A SELECTED GROUP OF INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STAFF (IMS) OFFICERS IS DEVELOPING THIS PLAN FOR THE CHAIRMAN, MILITARY COMMITTEE TO SEND TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL PERHAPS WITHIN A WEEK. FYI. SHAPE AND THE

IMS HAVE NATURALLY BEEN VERY CAREFUL TO KEEP THIS INFORMATION FROM TURKEY AND GREECE BECAUSE OF ITS EXTREME SENSITIVITY. OUR KNOWLEDGE OF TISACTION IS OF ITSELF SENSITIVE. PLEASE PROTECT. END FYI.

5. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE, FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS APPEAR RELEVANT TO US DECISION:

A. WITH NATO RESOURCES NOW AVAILABLE, SHAPE CAN AND MAY MOVE PROMPTLY TO SATISFY MOST AIOF THE TURKISH COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRMENTS. AN EARLY MOVE IN THIS DIRECTION COULD LARGELY PREEMPT THE OPPORTUNITY FOR DISPLAY OF US INITIATIVE.

B. NATO COOPERATION APPEARS NECESSARY FOR THE US TO BE ABLE TO MAKE A GESTURE ON COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH TURKEY, SO IF WE ARE TO PROCEED WE MUST CONSULT WITH NATO OFFICIALS AT SOME STATE.

C. A US INITIATIVE TO DISCUSS WITH NATO FFICIALS A JOINT US-NATO EFFORT TO SATISFY THESE COMMUNICATIONS REQUIREMENTS PROBABLY WOULD ALERT BOTH TURKEY AND GREECE TO THE US INTENT.

D. AN OFFER TO TURKEY INVOLVING US COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES COLD WORK TO LESSEN PRESSRUES WITHIN THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT TO CLOSE THESE AND SIMILAR FACILITIES.

E. A US INITIATIVE TO PARTICIPATE WITH NATO IN MAKING AN
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OFFER WOULD NOT HAVE FINANCIAL COSTS AND WOULD NO REDUCE OUR NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY.

6. RECOMMENDATION. WE RECOGNIZE THE DRAWBACKS EMBASSY ANKARA POINTED UP IN PREMAUTURELY ALERTING TURKS TO A US GESTURE, BUT WE BELIEVE WASHINGTON SHOULD CONSIDER APPROACHING SELECTED NATO OFFICIALS(INTERNATIONAL STAFF, IMS, AND SHAPE) WITH A PROPOSAL TO UNDERTAKE A JOINT US-NATO EFFORT TO SATISFY CIRITICAL TURKISH COMMUNICATIONS REQUIREMENTS, IF SUCH A GESTURE WOULD FURTHER US POLICY OBJECTIVES. IF TIS JOINT EFFORT IS UNDERTAKEN, WE BELIEVE BOTH THE US AND NATO SHOULD CONSIDER THE FEASIBILITY OF PRE-EMPTING LESS CRITICAL USERS OF EXISTING SYSTEMS IF NECESSARY TO SATISFY THESE REQUIREMENTS.
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